

ABSTRACTComputer Software Installation (Fig. 3a)

When an executable program is to be loaded into RAM 10, the RAM initially contains a loader module 12a, the program 10, an ENGINE 22 and encrypted resources 24, such as encrypted .DLL files. When the program 14 is to be run, the loader module 12a will call the ENGINE 22, which will access the sub-routine resources required by the program 14, identify any of these which are already available in the system, load those already available, and decrypt and load any which are not available. This ensures that the required sub-routines are available to the program 14 on each occasion that the program 14 is executed.